

*Authors Legislation to increase transparency, accountability, and efficiency of VA Medical System*

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July 1, 2010

Washington, D.C. — Congressman Joe Sestak (PA-07) wasted no time in communicating his continuing

“Since 2007 Congress has worked hard to overcome more than two decades of neglect of providing the

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“I have faith and confidence in the professionals of the VA Medical Center. However, in every industry it

As a Former U.S. Navy Vice Admiral, the dismal state of healthcare for our nation's Veterans that is so common at the Saint Louis VA Medical Center is a source of deep disappointment and concern for Congressman Sestak.

Congressman Sestak is currently sponsoring HR 3843, the Transparency for America's Heroes Act. This bill would require the VA to disclose to the public the names of all VA medical centers that have been cited for unsafe practices by the VA's Office of Inspector General (OIG) in the past five years.

The following is the full text of the letter the Congressman sent to Chairman Filner:

Today there is outrage in Missouri, and nationwide, regarding the possible infection of 1,800 Veterans at the Saint Louis VA Medical Center. This is a disaster that has the potential to cause significant harm to our Veterans and their families.

Until March of 2010, Dr. Pamela Gray was a rheumatologist at the Hampton VAMC. It is her contention that the VA's failure to properly monitor and report on the infection rates at the Saint Louis VAMC is a direct result of the VA's failure to properly monitor and report on the infection rates at the Hampton VAMC.

Given today's reports from the St. Louis VAMC, and the extensive allegations of three qualified physicians, it is clear that the VA's failure to properly monitor and report on the infection rates at the Saint Louis VAMC is a direct result of the VA's failure to properly monitor and report on the infection rates at the Hampton VAMC.

*Born and raised in Delaware County, former 3-star Admiral Joe Sestak served in the Navy for 31 years and*

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